

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION THAT WILL ENSURE THAT FEDERAL MONEY GRANTED TO STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT IS USED FOR ITS INTENDED PURPOSE

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce legislation that will ensure that federal money granted to state and local law enforcement is used for its intended purpose, and not in violation of our constitutional right to equal protection. As a member of the House Committee on Homeland Security, I am proud of the service we provide to the American people. Through the Department of Homeland Security, over \$35 billion in federal funds have been granted to local and state governments for counterterrorism programs that have kept our homeland safe since 9/11.

Unfortunately, not every dime of federally granted money has been used wisely. Troubling reports demonstrate that DHS grants have been used to fund biased training activities that are inaccurate, surveillance programs that target members of neighborhoods simply because of their religion, and other activities that are overbroad and compromise our security. Aside from being unconstitutional, these programs fail to narrowly target individuals that are actual security threats.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation that secures our homeland, while maintaining the integrity of federal grants. This legislation will require that DHS counterterrorism grants are used to fund training programs developed by the Department of Homeland Security, or training programs that are pre-approved by the Department's Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties and its Privacy Office. Additionally, the bill will require that the Department's Inspector General regularly review DHS funded programs to ensure that they are not used to support civil rights violations, including racial, ethnic, and religious profiling.

Mr. Speaker, we all know the often quoted statement from Ben Franklin, one of the authors of the Constitution, that "anyone who trades liberty for security deserves neither liberty nor security." Today, we need both security and liberty, and can ill-afford to sacrifice either. These two concepts—security and liberty—are national interests that work hand-in-hand; when one is dismissed, the other is inherently discarded. This legislation is as much about the liberty of a few, as it is about the security of this whole nation.

I hope my colleagues join my effort to restore the integrity of taxpayers' dollars; let us provide the appropriate tools to law enforcement so that they may secure our homeland well; nevertheless, let us also protect the American people from unreasonable government treatment by enacting this legislation.

COMMEMORATING THE 350TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH IN MARYLAND

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to both salute a former staffer who now works for a boss more powerful than any Member of Congress and to celebrate a feat of incredible longevity at his new workplace.

I was honored to employ Brian Sanderfoot, from Appleton, Wisconsin, for many years. He represented the highest values we in Congress want to provide: courtesy, commitment, and a dedication to public service.

A devout Catholic, Brian left Congress to pursue his true calling in the priesthood. After studying both at D.C.'s Catholic University and in Rome, Brian became Father Sanderfoot and entered a new phase of service.

Father Sanderfoot settled in the Archdiocese of Washington which is home to over 600,000 Catholics living in Washington, DC, and five Maryland counties. He now ministers at Maryland's St. Francis Xavier parish and is making a real difference in the lives of his congregation.

In a nation that commemorates the 25th or 50th anniversary of an event, Father Sanderfoot's parish has a special distinction. It recently celebrated its 350th anniversary, making it the oldest Catholic parish in America.

In anticipation of this milestone, Father Sanderfoot initiated two historical discovery projects. The first was a thorough survey of the cemetery at the parish's Newtowne Neck Church to map and index the graves. The second project was an archeological dig to discover the location of the original chapel.

St. Francis Xavier's parish has been a silent witness to a new country coming into being, its expansion across a continent, a civil war that pitted brother against brother, the strength of a people tested by the Great Depression and world wars, and the rise of a superpower. It has been the site of countless baptisms, weddings, funerals, masses, and homilies. For three and a half centuries, this parish has been the place where faith was nurtured, renewed, and embraced.

It is a privilege to consider Father Brian Sanderfoot a part of the extended Lewis family. I celebrate his new life and his lasting faith. Let us honor the durability of St. Francis Xavier's parish, which has been a steadfast source of identity and a pillar of stability for all Catholics in the area.

JEAN KIRSHNER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jean Kirshner, co-founder of the Belize Education Project, for receiving the Golden Rotary Ethics in Business Award.

The Belize Education Project is responsible for bringing thousands of books and supplies

to students and teachers in Belize, as well as delivering teacher training to Belize educators in Belize and here in Colorado.

Utilizing five focuses of the "lifting lives through literacy project", reading with students, teacher education, family literacy, school supplies and scholarships for both primary and high school students, the Belize Education Project has been able to reach several of their goals.

Since 2007, an education team has traveled annually to Belize to work with teachers, students and families. In addition, a group of educators from Belize are hosted in Colorado to learn from instruction in Colorado classrooms.

I congratulate Jean Kirshner for her leadership, and all the individuals of the Belize Education Project for making our world a better place to live.

THE LITTLE ROCK DIFFERENCE

HON. TIM GRIFFIN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2012

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Little Rock Air Force Base (LRAFB) and the LRAFB Community Council, both of which are located in central Arkansas, which I represent.

This week, the Community Council was presented with the Abilene Trophy, which recognizes the community that provides the "finest support" to an Air Mobility Command unit.

This is the second time the LRAFB Community Council has received this award, and it's truly a testament to their dedication to military families, to their community, and to their nation.

LRAFB has always enjoyed the support of the surrounding community. In fact, LRAFB was founded in 1952 when community leaders raised \$1 million to buy property from more than 150 private landowners and donated the property to the U.S. Air Force to create LRAFB.

In 2011, when LRAFB was hit by a tornado, the community responded by adopting affected families. Two weeks later, LRAFB was similarly responsive, assisting local families affected by flooding.

This supportive and cooperative relationship goes beyond just "neighbors helping neighbors." Last year, LRAFB's Joint Education Center became a first-of-its-kind partnership between the City of Jacksonville and LRAFB, and, to fund this project, the residents of Jacksonville voted to tax themselves to raise \$5 million to put toward the overall project.

The relationship between LRAFB and the community is unique, and, together, they are one team and responsive to the needs of each other. They serve as examples of excellence. This is how LRAFB and the Community Council differentiate themselves from other communities with air bases and what led to the creation of "The Little Rock Difference."

"The Little Rock Difference" initiative was unveiled this week by the Community Council. It establishes the characteristics of the relationship between LRAFB and the local community, and it is based on the LRAFB mantra "Rock & Role."

"Rock" is for "The Rock," which is the nickname of LRAFB and how the community affectionately refers to LRAFB. "Role" is for the